

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 293

By Yager

A RESOLUTION to commend Mark E. Blakley for his honorable  
and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to  
specially recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to  
improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Mark E. Blakley served with distinction as the District Public Defender for  
the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, serving Campbell, Claiborne, Fentress, Scott, and Union Counties, from  
January 2013 through August 2014; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Blakley graduated from Carson-Newman College in 1983 and went on  
to earn his Doctor of Jurisprudence degree from the University of Memphis Cecil C. Humphrey  
School of Law in 1991; and

WHEREAS, Mark Blakley served as the Scott County Attorney for two four-year terms,  
and practiced law as a partner in the firm of Stansberry, Petroff, Marcum and Blakley, P.C., from  
1991 through 2012; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Blakley was appointed by Governor Bill Haslam as the District Public  
Defender for the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District, filling the vacancy created by the retirement of Martha  
Yoakum; and

WHEREAS, recognized as a leader by his peers and colleagues, Mark Blakley served  
on the executive committee of the Tennessee District Public Defenders Conference; and

WHEREAS, throughout his notable service with that conference, Mr. Blakley  
demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect  
and admiration of his colleagues; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Mark E. Blakley for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Tennessee as the District Public Defender for the 8<sup>th</sup> Judicial District and salute his unswerving commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.